

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02 NEAE-00 SSO-00

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O 191517Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0112

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4437

FOR NEA: ATHERTON FROM MELOY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP LE

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF APO MAIL SERVICE TO ALL MISSION PERSONNEL

1. I WOULD LIKE TO ENLIST YOUR ASSISTANCE IN HAVING APO PRIVILEGES EXTENDED TO INCLUDE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THIS MISSION. AS THE NUMBER IN THE EMBASSY IS REDUCED, THE DIFFICULTIES OF PROVIDING THIS SERVICE TO ALL PERSONNEL ARE MINIMIZED; AT SAME TIME, IT BECOMES INCREASINGLY EVIDENT TO SMALLER STAFF THAT SOME PERSONNEL ARE ENJOYING SUBSTANTIALLY BETTER SERVICE THAN OTHERS. AS YOU ARE ALSO AWARE, BEIRUT IS NO LONGER AND IS NOT LIKELY TO BE FOR SOME TIME THE MARKETPLACE IT ONCE WAS, AND I FORSEE STAFF HAVING TO DEPEND INCREASINGLY UPON MAIL ORDERS TO OBTAIN CLOTHING AND OTHER CONSUMER ITEMS THAT ONCE WERE AVAILABLE LOCALLY, IN SHORT, FOR PURPOSES OF EFFICIENCY AND STAFF MORALE, I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS STEP BY TAKEN.

2. I AM FULLY AWARE THAT THERE HAS BEEN VOLUMINOUS CORRESPONDENCE ON THIS QUESTION AT THE TIME WHEN THIS MISSION COUNTED SOME 200 EMPLOYEES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS. WE ARE NOW SPEAKING, HOWEVER, OF FEWER THAN FIFTY PERSONS TOTAL, OF WHOM APPROXIMATELY ONE-THIRD ARE ENTITLED TO APO BY VIRTUE OF THEIR ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE STATUS. I WOULD HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT WE CAN CUT THROUGH RED TAPE AND INSTITUTE THIS CHANGE EXPEDITIOUSLY. PERHAPS THIS PROCESS COULD BE PUSHED ALONG IF THE EXPANDED SERVICE WERE LIMITED TO EXCLUDE REGISTERED MAIL (WHICH I UNDERSTAND REQUIRES CONFIDENTIAL

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HANDLING BY AN AMERICAN EMPLOYEE) AND TO ENCOMPASS ONLY USG

EMPLOYEES OF THIS MISSION (WHICH WILL SAVE US FROM THORNY PROBLEM  
OF ACCESS BY RETIRED MILITARY PERSONNEL).

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS  
PROPOSAL FOLLOWING APPROPRIATE CONTACT WITH DEFENSE DEPT.  
MELOY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 MAY 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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